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Minutes 04/01/2009

Approved MINUTES OF THE OPEN SPACE COMMITTEE APRIL 1, 2009

In attendance: Jane Auger, Lisa Decker, Joey Glushko, Elizabeth Karpati, Patsy Kraemer, Ann LeRoy, David White. Notes by Elizabeth Karpati.

- The **minutes** of the previous meeting were accepted with minor corrections and clarifications.
- The **May 6** meeting will be held 7-8 p.m. because of Town Meeting.
- The letter to **bikepath abutters** regarding encroachment on the path has gone out. It resulted in a discussion between the Spy Pond condo management and DPW about the ugly truck used by the condos for storage. The truck will be replaced with a shed.
- Meeting on **Mill Brook**, 3/24:
 - Representatives of about 10 groups, some from outside OSC, attended. Joey took notes which will be sent to all invitees, not just attendees.
 - Mia Lehrer's old proposal divided the brook into sections; each was assigned to one of those present, who will write up its current condition and possibilities for a linear park and take some pictures.
 - It would be premature to add a Mill Brook page to the Town website now, but Joey's notes will be put on the OSC page; a Mill Brook page can be created later when we have a plan to post.
 - Lisa mentioned an idea from her husband for publicity: a kayak trip down the brook, with portages where necessary, which could be filmed for cable. The brook is too shallow for kayaks, but an amusing race between toy boats or rubber duckies could be staged and filmed. Could any culverted parts of the brook be daylighted?
 - The next meeting on Mill Brook will be on April 23, 7:30 p.m.
- The **management plans** for Menotomy Rocks Park (Jane) and McClennen Park (Lisa) were discussed and some suggestions made. The latter was dedicated in 2006 but is still under the Redevelopment Board; a 2009 warrant article would transfer it to the Town Manager.
- The **Ecofest** on March 28 was a big success. About 30 vendors and groups participated. Private vendors paid \$20 for a table for a total income of about \$300. Attendance was good. DPW was there and sold some 50 compost bins. David Epstein gave a helpful talk on lawn alternatives. The Ecofest will probably be repeated next year but there are no plans to make it an annual affair.

The state plan for a path along Alewife Brook has been approved.

Plans for the pilot program for porta-potties at parks and playing fields (mostly the latter) are proceeding.